

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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R 161347Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9122

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

USEC BRUSSELS 3134

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USOECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 5917

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, AU

SUBJECT: CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S VISIT TO AUSTRIA

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S TWO-DAY OFFICIAL
AND TWO-DAY PRIVATE VISIT TO AUSTRIA PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY
FOR SCHMIDT TO EXPOUND MAIN LINES OF FRG FOREIGN POLICY
AND FOR HIS AUSTRIAN HOSTS TO EXPRESS DESIRE TO
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EXPAND COOPERATION WITH EC-9 SO THAT AUSTRIA NOT

BE OVERLOOKED IN, OR SHUT OUT OF, PROCESSES OF EUROPEAN UNIFICATION. IN ABSENCE OF BILATERAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN FRG AND AUSTRIA, DISCUSSIONS FOCUSED ALMOST ENTIRELY ON LARGE MULTILATERAL EUROPEAN AND WORLD PROBLEMS ON WHICH MFA OFFICIAL SAID DIFFERENCES ON OVERALL OBJECTIVES WERE PRACTICALLY NONEXISTENT AND ON PARTICULARL STEPS TO ACHIEVE THEM SMALL. FOR AUSTRIANS, VISIT, LIKE THAT OF CHANCELLOR KREIKSY TO FRANCE, SERVED TO REAFFIRM AUSTRIA'S POSITION AND PRIMARY INTEREST IN REMAINING INTEGRAL PART OF DEMOCRATIC WESTERN EUROPE. FOR KRESIKY, IT WAS ALSO PART OF EFFORT TO ESTABLISH WITH SCHMIDT SOMETHING MORE LIKE REAPPORT HE HAS ENJOYED WITH WILLI BRANDT, SCHMIDT'S Demeanor AND WORDS WRE REASSURING THROUGHOUT, EVEN IF NETIERH HE NOR KREISKY EVINced MUCH ENTHUSIASM FOR EACH OTHER'S RESPECTIVE PROPOSALS FOR UNGA CONVENTION ON COMBATting TERRORISM AND WESTERN POLITICAL SUMMIT BEFORE CSCE FOLLOW-UP MEETING IN BELGRADE. END SUMMARY.

2. FRG CHANCELLOR, ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. SCHMIDT, PAID TWO-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO AUSTRIA JULY 8-9 AND TWO-DAY PRIVATE VISIT TO BURGENALDN PROVINCE IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER. BOTH SIDES CHARACTERIZED ATMOSPHERE AS VERY RELAXED WITH MINIMUM OF PROTOCOL, WHICH EMPHASIZED LACK OF SIGNIFICANT BILATERAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN FRG AND AUSTRIA AND, ACCORDING TO OBSERVANT MEDIA, SERVED TO STRENGTHEN VIEW OF YOUNGER AUSTRIANS THAT SUCH AUSTRO-GERMANY COMITY COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT.

3. SCHMIDT, WHO OUTLINED FRG FOREIGN POLICY IN SPEECH BEFORE AUSTRIAN FOREGIN POLICY ASSOCIATION, EXPRESSED BASIC AGREEMENT WITH CHANCELLOR KREISKY CONCERNING POSITION OF AUSTRIA BETWEEN EAST AND WEST BUT STILL AN INTEGRAL PART OF DEMOCRATIC WESTERN EUROPE. SCHMIDT SAID PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPE NECESSITATED NOT ONLY POLITICAL UNITY OF EC MEMBERS BUT INCLUSION OF ALL EUROPEAN DEMOCRACIES, FOR WHICH REASONS FRG ATTRIBUTED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO AUSTRIA'S EC RELATIONS. HE PRAISED AUSTRIAN ENGAGEMENT IN EUROPEAN QUESTIONS
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AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO PRESERVATION OF WORLD PEACE. NEITHER EC COUNTRIES NOR EASTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, HE SAID, COULD OVERLOOK INCREASING COOPERATION OF EUROPE'S NEUTRAL COUNTRIES AND YUGOSLAVIAN NON-ALIGNMENT WHICH PREVENTED GROWTH OF NON-MAN'S LAND BETWEEN THE BLOCS. KRESIKY TOLD SCHMIDT AUSTRIA INTENDED TO ACTIVATE CLAUSE IN EC-AUSTRIA AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR EVOLUTION OF RELATIONS IN

AREAS NOT PRECLUDED BY AUSTRIAN NEUTRALITY, E.G. AGRICULTURAL POLICY. SCHMIDT DID NOT COMMENT BUT, ACCORDING TO FRG AMBASSADOR, WILL AWAIT FORMAL AUSTRIAN PROPOSALS.

4. SCHMIDT DESCRIBED FRG FOREIGN POLICY AS STEMMING FROM "EXISTENCE OF ONLY ONE GERMAN NATION LIVING SEPARATELY IN TWO STATES, A POLICY THAT RELIES ON A STRONG ALLIANCE AND N THE RESULTING EQUILIBRIUM IN EUROPE, A POLICY THAT KNOWS IT CAN BE SUCCESSFUL ONLY WITH A GROWING REAPPROCHMENT BETWEEN EAST AND WEST AND ONLY WITH A PROGRESSING INTEGRATION OF EUROPE". SCHMIDT CITED FRG RELATIONS WITH FRANCE AND POLAND AS EXAMPLES FOR UNIVERSAL OVERCOMING OF PAST. LATER, DISCUSSING DETENTE, HE SAID MOST IMPORTANT PREREQUISITE "IS THE PRESERVATION OF THE GLOBAL SECURITY BALANCE. AND THIS,

IN TURN, PRESUPPOSES ADEQUATE AND AT THE SAME TIME CREDIBLE READINESS FOR DEFENSE AGAINST EXTERNAL ATTACKS, AS WELL AS INTRNAL STABILITY.

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

/072 W

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R 161347Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9123
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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5. SCHMIDT DID NOT CONCEAL HIS DISAPPOINTMENT WITH HEADWAY IN EUROPEAN INTEGRATION THROUGH EC, REASON FOR WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED TO WORLD ECONOMIC CRISIS BEGINNING IN 1974 AND DIFFERING WAYS IT HIT EC COUNTRIES. HE THOUGHT CURRENT ECONOMIC RECOVERY WOULD STIMULATE PROGRESS IN POLITICAL UNIFICATION. HE NOTED THAT "TODAY FOREIGN POLICY IS, QUITE ESSENTIALLY, WORLD ECONOMIC POLICY," AND DREW TWO CONCLUSIONS FROM EXPERIENCE WITH RECENT CONFIDENTIAL

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ECONOMIC RECESSION: 1) "THAT NEVER BEFORE HAVE STATES BEEN SO INTERLOCKED IN THE WORLD ECONOMY AND INTERLOCKED WITH THE EFFICIENT FUNCTIONING OF THE WHOLE SYSTEM," AND 2) THAT NEVER "HAS THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR ACQUIRED SUCH PROPORTIONS." HE SAID THAT "WE CANNOT, AND SHOULD NOT WANT TO, PUSH THIS DEVELOPMENT BACK; A RELAPSE INTO NATIONALIST, AUTARKIC ECONOMIC THINKING WOULD CERTAINLY LEAD TO ECONOMIC SETBACKS."

6. MFA DIRECTOR WESTERN AFFAIRS DID NOT KNOW WHAT SCHMIDT AND KREISKY DISCUSSED IN THEIR TWO PRIVATE TALKS BUT SAID KREISKY USED OTHER MEETINGS, AS HE HAD THOSE EARLIER WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT IN PARIS, TO EXPLAIN HIS THINKING ON NEED FOR "WESTERN POLITICAL SUMMIT." HE SAID KREISKY'S VIEW WAS THAT WESTERN COUNTRIES SHOULD BE AT LEAST AS WELL PREPARED AND COORDINATED AS COMMUNISTS BEFORE THEY PROCEED FURTHER IN SUCH AREAS AS EAST-WEST DETENTE, NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, AND CSCE FOLLOW-UP; ONLY THEN COULD WEST ACT INSTEAD OF REACT TO COMMUNISTS' MOVES. KREISKY SUGGESTED JANUARY DEDICATION OF NEW COUNCIL OF EUROPE QUARTERS AT STRASBOURG MIGHT PROVIDE OCCASION FOR SUMMIT TO WHICH AMERICAN AND CANADIAN LEADERS COULD LOGICALLY BE INVITED. KREISKY TOLD SCHMIDT THAT PROPOSAL FOR "OECD POLITICAL SUMMIT" HAD NOT BEEN MEANT LITERALLY AND THAT SUMMIT WITHIN OECD FRAMEWORK HAD NOT BEEN ENVISIONED. ACCORDING TO FRG AMBASSADOR, SCHMIDT PROMISED TO INFORMALLY SOUND OUT EC-9 GOVERNMENTS ON

KREISKY SUGGESTION FOR WESTERN SUMMIT.

7. MFA OFFICIAL SAID KREISKY STRESSED STRONGLY AUSTRIAN CONCERN THAT EC MIGHT TAKE CONCRETE ACTIONS IN AFTERMATH OF TINDEMAN'S REPORT AND THAT ONLY WAY AUSTRIA COULD MAKE HER INFLUENCE FELT WAS TO GET HER OAR IN EARLY. OFFICIAL SAID THIS WAS BASIS FOR KREISKY DECISION TO ACTIVATE EVOLUTIONARY CLAUSE IN EC-AUSTRIA AGREEMENT. ACCORDING TO MFA OFFICIAL, AUSTRIANS WERE GRATIFIED IN THIS REGARD AND OTHERS WITH SCHMIDT'S POSITIVE POSITION ON INCLUSION TO MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE OF AUSTRIA AND OTHER NEUTRALS IN PROCESSES OF WEST EUROPEAN INTEGRATION.

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8. MFA OFFICIAL INDICATED KREISKY ALSO EXPLAINED HIS PROPOSAL FOR "MARSHALL PLAN" FOR LDC'S, WHICH SCHMIDT PROMISED TO EXAMINE BUT SAID HE THOUGHT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN FRAMEWORK OF NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE. SCHMIDT ON OTHER HAND, EXPLAINED HIS PLANS TO PRESS IN UNGA THIS FALL AND IN COUNCIL OF EUROPE FOR ACTION TO COMBAT TERRORISM. KREISKY REPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT CHANCES OF UN CONSENSUS ON COMBATTING TERRORISM WAS QUESTIONABLE AND THAT MERE DECLARATIONS AGAINST TERRORISM WOULD NOT ELIMINATE IT. SOME AUSTRIAN NEWSPAPERS CHARACTERIZED CHANCELLORS' POSITIONS ON THESE TWO MATTERS AS CONTRADICTORY BUT MFA OFFICIAL THOUGHT THERE WERE NO DIFFERENCES ON OBJECTIVES, ONLY UPON EFFECTIVENESS OF MEANS SUGGESTED TO ACHIEVE THEM. BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976VIENNA05917
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760275-0031
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760748/aaaabpzig.tel
Line Count: 257
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S VISIT TO AUSTRIA
TAGS: PFOR, GE, AU, (SCHMIDT, HELMUT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006